

## WIRELESS DATA COMMUNICATION UNIT

### **Abstract of the disclosure**

5 A wireless data communication unit (700) shares a data communication resource with a plurality of other data communication units. The wireless data communication unit (700) receives channel status information from a wireless serving communication unit on an outbound channel (100) and transmits data to the wireless serving communication unit on an inbound channel. The wireless communication unit  
10 includes a processor (708) for monitoring channel status symbols inserted on the outbound channel, such that the processor (708) regulates time intervals between successive data transmissions (480) on the inbound channel dependent upon the monitored channel status symbols inserted on the outbound channel. A method of sharing a communication resource is also described.

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The provision of a variable time interval dependent upon an inbound channel usage provides the advantage that improved channel utilization can be achieved in a shared communication resource, whilst the attempted use of the communication resource does not exceed a channel capacity.